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The attention of members of the Society is again called to the urgent need for an adequate endowment fund. Our possessions are wonderful, but lack of means has prevented their proper exploitation, so that they are largely inaccessible to students. Rare items of Maryland interest frequently escape us because no funds are available for their purchase. A largely increased sustaining membership will help somewhat, but an endowment is a fundamental need. Legacies are of course welcomed, but present-day subscriptions will bring immediate results. **SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

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ARCHIVES OF MARYLAND

Edited by BERNARD C. STEINER AND J. HALL PLEASANTS, M. D.

Published by authority of the State

VOLUME XLV (State Council Series, Volume 6)

JOURNAL AND CORRESPONDENCE OF THE STATE COUNCIL, 1780-1781.

This volume of the Archives is now ready for distribution. The attention of members of the Society who do not now receive the Archives is called to the liberal provision made by the Legislature, which permits the Society to furnish to its own members copies of the volumes, as they are published from year to year, at the mere cost of paper, presswork, and binding. This cost is at present fixed at one dollar, at which price members of the Society may obtain one copy of each volume published. For additional copies, a price of three dollars is charged.

The forty-fifth volume of the Archives of Maryland is the sixth volume in the sub-series of state documents relating to the period of the Revolutionary War. The Council Proceedings were copied from Liber C. B. No. 24, and the correspondence of the Council from Liber No. 78; both of these are contemporary copies of which the original rough minutes and drafts are in the keeping of the Maryland Historical Society. The letters and reports to the Council are from two sources in the possession of the Society; namely, the three series of bound volumes of manuscripts known familiarly as the Black, Brown and Red Books from the color of their bindings; and a mass of bundles of manuscripts arranged in chronological order by Charles Fickus some five years ago. These sources are more fully described in the introduction to Volume 43. Material drawn from the bound volumes is identified in the margin of the present volume by name of series and number of document, while papers taken from the second source are located by a date reference only. The marginal references showing the date and source of each document are an innovation in the editing of the series, begun with this volume. As in other recent volumes of the Archives, much space has been saved and, we believe, no interest lost by the excision of formal headings and conclusions of letters. The preparation of the copy was begun and carried out by the late editor of the Archives of Maryland, Bernard Christian Steiner, from copies made by Miss Lucy Harwood Harrison and the publication of the volume has been effected by Dr. J. Hall Pleasants, with the assistance of Charles Fickus and Miss Carolina Virginia Davison.

The introduction is by Lawrence C. Wroth, Esq., and contains a bibliography of the writings of Dr. Steiner.

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